

# **Executive Summary Town of Rockport Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Presented to the Rockport Board of Selectmen  
June 1, 2010

## **Why is Rockport doing this plan?**

- It is required by The Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 in order to continue to be eligible to receive FEMA funding for hazard mitigation grants.
- This planning requirement does not affect disaster assistance funding for businesses and homeowners.
- This plan will enable Rockport to apply for additional FEMA grants such as those approved for:
  - Old Wharf Road
  - Granite Pier
  - Mill Pond Dam

## **What is the scope of this plan?**

It is a plan for preventing or minimizing damages from natural hazards.

- It is not an emergency response plan.
- It deals only with natural hazards:
  - Flooding
  - Earthquakes and other geologic hazards
  - Tornadoes,
  - Hurricanes
  - Winter storms
  - Brush fires
  - Dam failures
- The emphasis is on flooding because it is the most common natural hazard.

## **How was the plan prepared?**

- The Metropolitan Area Planning Council received a grant from MEMA to prepare plans for 16 communities.
- The only cost to the town was staff time.
- MAPC consulted extensively with the Rockport DPW, Town Administrator, Planning Board.

## **What is the extent of flooding in Rockport?**

- The plan identified 18 flood hazard areas; 6 are inland and 12 are coastal.
- The inland flood hazard areas total approximately 41 acres.
- The coastal flood hazard areas total approximately 130 acres.

#### **What are the highest priority areas?**

- Bearskin Neck because it is a primary tourist area and critical to the economic health of the community.
- Cape Hedge Beach because it's the only parking access for two beaches.
- Pebble Beach because a portion of Penzance Road washes out.
- Front Beach because it is the main beach downtown.

#### **What is the extent of other natural hazards?**

- The plan identified 5 areas prone to brush fires and 2 dams.

#### **What happens after tonight's meeting?**

- MAPC will revise the plan based on comments if appropriate.
- MAPC will submit the plan to MEMA and then FEMA for review.
- MAPC will revise the plan based on MEMA/FEMA comments.
- The Board of Selectmen will need to vote to adopt the plan.

#### **What does plan approval mean?**

- It means the town will be eligible to apply for grants:
  - Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program
  - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
  - Flood Mitigation Assistance
- All local plans must be reviewed, revised and resubmitted to FEMA in five years to maintain eligibility.

#### **Will adoption of this plan cost the town any money?**

- The plan itself does not require the town to spend any money.
- In the future, if the town decides to apply for additional FEMA grants, there will be costs associated with staff time for preparing grant applications and if successful, there will be a match requirement based on the cost of the project.

#### **What are the specific recommendations of the plan?**

- Table 12 is included on the next page. It outlines the recommended mitigation measures.

**Table 12**  
**Potential Mitigation Measures**

<b>Mitigation Measure</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Implementation Responsibility</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources</b>
<b>High Priority Mitigation Measures</b>					
Old Wharf Road, Granite Pier, Stone Revetment	High	DPW	2010	\$525,648	FEMA
Mill Pond Dam	High	DPW	2010	\$719,000	FEMA
Improvements to Whites Wharf at Bearskin Neck	High	DPW	2011	\$100,000	FEMA
Drainage improvements at Lowest Lane and Summit Avenue	High	DPW	2011	\$15,000 for engineering and \$50,000 for structure	Town
Upgrade pilings at T Wharf	High	DPW	2011	\$150,000	Town
Replace staircases at Long Beach	High	DPW	2013	\$15,000	Town
Improvements to Penzance Road at Pebble Beach	High	DPW	2013	TBD	FEMA, Town
<b>Medium Priority Mitigation Measures</b>					

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Culvert replacement on Route 127/Nugent Stretch	Medium	Mass DOT	2014	\$20,000	Mass DOT
Folly Cove drainage improvements- install 36 inch pipe	Medium	DPW	2014	\$5,000 in engineering and \$10,000 for structures	Town
<b>Other Potential Mitigation Measures</b>					
Drainage improvements at Penryn Way- new pipes, catch basins and manholes	Low	DPW	2015	\$3,000 for engineering and \$20,000 for structures	Town
Drainage improvements at High Street Court and Pleasant Street	Low	DPW	2015	\$3,000 for engineering and \$10,000 for structures.	Town
Install Storm Tech units at Mill Pond to reduce sedimentation	Low	DPW	2015	\$20,000 for two units	Town
Refurbish fire roads in the Nugent Stretch	Low	DPW/Fire Dept.	2015	TBD	Town

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Purchase new street sweeping equipment	Low	DPW	2015	TBD	Town
Make recommended repairs at the Carlson Quarry Dam	Low	DPW	2015	\$16,000 - \$25,000	Town
<b>Mitigation Measures related to the National Flood Insurance Program</b>					
Continuation of open space protection and land acquisition	NFIP	Conservation Commission, Board of Selectmen	Ongoing	Varies from town staff time to purchase price of selected parcels	Town, Community Preservation Act, gifts, grants
Regulatory revisions for stormwater management	NFIP	Conservation Commission, Planning Board	Short-term	Town staff	Town, state grants
Become fully "Storm Read"/TV alert notification	NFIP	Fire Dept.	Short-term	\$5-\$15,000	Town and/or public safety grants.